

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A nightlight comprising:

a casing having an aperture in a front side thereof;

a plug that extends from a rear side of the casing and connects the nightlight to an alternating current (AC) power source;

a light bulb that is illuminated by the AC power source and provides illumination through the aperture in the front side of the casing;

an electric motor mounted in the casing that receives power from the AC power source, said motor having a shaft that extends through the front side of the casing proximate to the aperture illuminated by the light bulb; and

a design disk that mounts on the shaft and rotates with the shaft when the motor is powered by the AC power source, said design disk having a diameter that causes the disk to cover the aperture in the front side of the casing when the disk is mounted on the shaft, said design disk having a design thereon that is visible when viewed from the front side of the nightlight when the light bulb shines through the disk from the aperture in the front side of the casing.

2. The nightlight of claim 1, further comprising a first switch that selectively connects the AC power source to the light bulb independently of the electric motor.

3. The nightlight of claim 2, further comprising a second switch that selectively connects the AC power source to the electric motor.

4. The nightlight of claim 3, further comprising a plurality of resistors that balance the load between the light bulb and the electric motor.

5. The nightlight of claim 1, further comprising a rheostat connected to the electric motor that variably controls the speed at which the motor rotates the shaft.

6. The nightlight of claim 1, wherein the electric motor is an AC motor.

7. The nightlight of claim 1, wherein the electric motor is a direct current (DC) motor, and the nightlight further comprises an AC-to-DC converter that converts the AC power source to a DC power source before applying the power to the DC motor.

8. The nightlight of claim 1, wherein the design disk is transparent.

9. The nightlight of claim 1, wherein the design disk is translucent.

10. A nightlight comprising:

a casing having a front side and a rear side;

a plug that extends from the rear side of the casing and connects the nightlight to an alternating current (AC) power source;

a light bulb within the casing that is illuminated by the AC power source;

an illumination area on the front side of the casing from which illumination from the light bulb is radiated;

an electric motor mounted in the casing that receives power from the AC power source, said motor having a shaft that extends through the front side of the casing proximate to the illumination area; and

a design disk that mounts on the shaft and rotates with the shaft when the motor is powered by the AC power source, said design disk having a diameter that causes the disk to cover the illumination area when the disk is mounted on the shaft, said design disk having a design thereon that is visible when viewed from the front side of the nightlight when the light bulb shines through the disk from the illumination area on the front side of the casing.

11. The nightlight of claim 10, wherein the illumination area is a translucent portion of the front surface of the casing.

12. The nightlight of claim 10, further comprising a rheostat connected to the electric motor that variably controls the speed at which the motor rotates the shaft.

13. A nightlight comprising:  
illuminating means;  
means for energizing the illuminating means;  
means for interposing a design disk between the  
illuminating means and a user of the nightlight; and  
means for rotating the design disk.

14. The nightlight of claim 13, wherein the energizing  
means is a battery.

15. The nightlight of claim 14, wherein the rotating  
means is a direct current (DC) electric motor.

16. The nightlight of claim 13, wherein the energizing  
means is a plug that connects the nightlight to an alternating  
current (AC) power source.

17. The nightlight of claim 16, wherein the rotating  
means is an AC electric motor.

18. The nightlight of claim 16, wherein the rotating  
means is a direct current (DC) motor, and the nightlight  
further comprises an AC-to-DC converter that converts the AC  
power source to a DC power source before applying the power to  
the DC motor.

19. The nightlight of claim 13, further comprising means  
for variably controlling the speed of rotation of the rotating  
means.